

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02

PRS-01 EURE-00 /119 W

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R 071000Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1392

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0332

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: GAS AND OIL STRIKE OFF LABRADOR

REF: ST JOHN'S A-34

1. ACCORDING TO CBC RADIO, EASTCAN EXPLORATION LTD AND PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND PLAN MAKE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY OR TOMORROW THAT LARGE STRIKE OF OIL AND GAS MADE AT EASTCAN'S SNORRI WELL OFFSHORE FROM NAIN, LABRADOR. FOR WHATEVER IT MAY BE WORTH, CBC QUOTED ONE UNIDENTIFIED SOURCE AS SAYING STRIKE IS BIGGEST OF ITS KIND IN CANADA.

2. COMMENT: IF CBC REPORT IS TRUE, IT IS BEST SORT OF NEWS FOR CANADA IN GENERAL AND NEWFOUNDLAND IN PARTICULAR. DETAILS GIVEN THUS FAR ARE SCANTY AND IT HAS NOT BEEN SPECIFIED WHETHER GAS OR OIL PREDOMINATES. OIL WOULD CERTAINLY BE COMMERCIALY MUCH MORE VALUABLE THAN GAS AND COULD MORE EASILY BE BROUGHT ASHORE AND DISTRIBUTED. EVEN UNDER MOST FAVORABLE CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, EXPLOITATION OF ANY NEW OIL OR GAS FIELD MIGHT BE A DECADE

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OR MORE IN THE FUTURE. BECAUSE OF PACK ICE, SEA OFF

LABRADOR CAN BE NAVIGATED ONLY BETWEEN JULY AND OCTOBER--
AND EVEN THEN THERE IS ICEBERG DANGER. CONSIDERABLE
AMOUNT OF VERY EXPENSIVE EXPERIMENTATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE ANY PRODUCING GAS OR
OIL FIELD CAN COME INTO BEING.
MOORE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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